

OYSTER CREEK NUCLEAR GENERATING STATION  
 FORKED RIVER, NEW JERSEY 08731

Abnormal Occurrence  
 Report No. 50-219/74/18

Report Date

March 18, 1974

Occurrence Date

March 8, 1974

Identification of Occurrence

Inoperability of one (1) Bergen-Paterson hydraulic shock and sway arrestor located on the "A" isolation condenser in the drywell. This event is considered to be an abnormal occurrence as defined in the Technical Specifications, paragraph 1.15D.

Conditions Prior to Occurrence

The plant was shut down with reactor coolant at <212°F.

Description of Occurrence

An inspection of the drywell snubbers, Bergen-Paterson type HSSA-10, located three inoperable units and four which were leaking. They are as follows:

<u>Unit</u>	<u>System</u>	<u>Condition</u>	<u>Elev.</u>
F93501 #2	A Isolation Condenser	Inoperable	75'
487574	B Isolation Condenser	Leaking	95'
487502	B Isolation Condenser	Leaking	95'
487495	Cleanup System	Leaking	55'
487573	Shutdown Cooling	Inoperable	51'
487489	North Electromatic Relief	Leaking	51'
487446	South Electromatic Relief	Inoperable	51'

All of the above HSSA units were rebuilt in January 1974 with ethylene propylene seals, except Unit #487489. This unit was rebuilt primarily with molded polyurethane seals in September 1973.

Of the three inoperable units, only one (F93501 #2) is associated with an engineered safeguard system ("A" Isolation Condenser). It is not believed that temperatures above the normal ambient conditions for the drywell during operation existed in the vicinity of any of the three inoperable units.

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Apparent Cause of Occurrence

The cause of snubber inoperability was a loss of the hydraulic fluid. An investigation is being initiated to determine why the fluid was expelled.

Analysis of Occurrence

The safety significance of this occurrence was a partial loss of the seismic restraining ability for the affected systems. Had the plant suffered a design basis earthquake, the probability that these systems would have suffered structural damage was increased.

Corrective Action

The seven units were replaced with identical snubbers which were rebuilt with ethylene propylene seals. In addition, pressure tests will be run on the defective units in an attempt to determine the cause of their inoperability and then each of the units will be dismantled to visually determine seal status. The results of this program will provide additional information toward a resolution of this problem.

Failure Data

Manufacturer: Bergen-Paterson  
Type: HSSA-10